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REMARKS

Claims 1-7, 10, 11, 14, 15 and 22-26 are now pending in the application. Claims 8, 9, 12, 13 and 16-21 have been cancelled. Claims 1, 14, 15 and 22-26 have been amended. Minor amendments have been made to the specification and claims to simply overcome the objections to the specification and rejections of the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 112. The amendments to the claims contained herein are of equivalent scope as originally filed and, thus, are not a narrowing amendment. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejection(s) in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 1 and 8-26 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant's regard as the invention. The claims have been amended to overcome the rejections as detailed below.

Claim 1 has been amended to delete the term "associated" and replace it with --attached--.

Claims 8 and 9 have been cancelled.

Claims 10 and 11 have not been amended but the specification has been amended to provide the necessary support.

Claims 12 and 13 have been cancelled.

Claims 14 and 15 have been amended to provide the necessary structural cooperation.

Claims 16-21 have been cancelled.

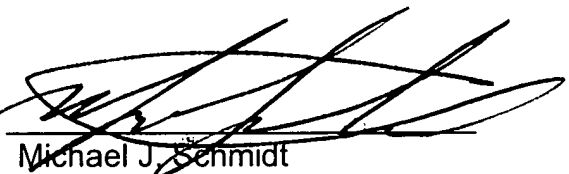
Claims 22-26 have been amended to more clearly recite the claimed invention.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: December 4, 2001

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ATTACHMENT FOR SPECIFICATION AMENDMENTS

The following is a marked up version of each replacement paragraph and/or section of the specification in which underlines indicates insertions and brackets indicate deletions.

Please replace paragraph beginning on Page 12, lines 14-23 with the following:

In order to minimize the possibility of inadvertent removal of the movable fence 24 from the table 13 and the frame 12 during position adjustments, the front face of the tongue 44 is preferably provided with anti-removal means in the form of an elongated antiremoval groove or slot 80 extending laterally therealong and a complementary projection 82, as shown in Figures 7 and 9. [A complementary]Complementary projection 82 is fixed to the fence-supporting portion 26 and protrudes into the slot 46 to be received in the antiremoval groove 80. As perhaps best seen in Figure 9, the lateral length of the groove 80 is sufficient to allow full adjusting movement of the movable fence 24 but insufficient to allow inadvertent removal of the movable fence 24. In addition, the clamping plate 62 also interferes with removal of the movable fence 24 unless the clamping plate 62 is first loosened.

ATTACHMENT FOR CLAIM AMENDMENTS

The following is a marked up version of each amended claim in which underlines indicates insertions and brackets indicate deletions.

1. (Amended) A miter saw comprising:

a base;

a table rotatably attached to the base;

a saw assembly pivotably connected to the table, said saw assembly comprising a rotatable cutting tool, a motor driving the cutting tool, and a housing covering the motor, the cutting tool being pivotably movable about a chopping axis in order to move the cutting tool towards the table for cutting a workpiece, the cutting tool being movable between a first position substantially perpendicular to the table, a second position inclined in a first direction from the first position, and a third position inclined in a second direction from the first position, the second direction being opposite to the first direction;

a first fence assembly disposed on one side of the base, the first fence assembly comprising a first fixed fence [associated with]attached to the base, and a first movable fence being interconnected with the first fixed fence; and

a second fence assembly disposed on the other side of the base, the second fence assembly comprising a second fixed fence [associated with]attached to the base, and a second movable fence being interconnected with the second fixed fence.

14. (Amended) The miter saw of Claim 1, further comprising a first member attached to said first fixed fence for releasably holding the first movable fence in a predetermined position in relation to the first movable fence in a predetermined position in relation to the first fixed fence.

15. (Amended) The miter saw of Claim 14, further comprising a second member attached to said second fixed fence for releasably holding the second movable fence in a predetermined position in relation to the second fixed fence.

22. (Amended) A compound miter saw [having a base and a saw blade selectively movable to any of a number of selected cutting positions] comprising:

a base;

a table [disposed between said base and said saw blade, said table being] rotatably supported by said base, said table and said base defining a first planar workpiece supporting surface;

a saw blade rotatably supported by said base;

an adjustable, laterally-extending, workpiece-supporting fence assembly, said fence assembly including a first fixed fence fixedly interconnected with the base and disposed on one side of the saw blade, and a movable fence selectively laterally movable and interconnected with the base and disposed on said one side of said saw blade, said first fixed fence defining a second planar workpiece supporting surface which extends a first distance from said first planar workpiece supporting surface and said movable fence defining a third planar workpiece supporting surface which extends

a second distance from said first fixed fence, said first fixed fence and said movable fence being located on said one side of said saw blade, said second distance being greater than said first distance.

23. (Amended) A compound miter saw according to Claim 22, further comprising a second fixed fence [portion] fixedly interconnected with the base and disposed on an opposite side of the saw blade, said second fixed fence [portion] further defining said second planar workpiece-supporting surface.

24. (Amended) A compound miter saw according to Claim 23, wherein, said second fixed fence [portion] is integral with said first fixed fence[portion].

25. (Amended) A compound miter saw according to Claim 22, further comprising a fixed clamping means fixedly interconnected to said base for selectively and clampingly securing said movable fence [portion]to the base.

26. (Amended) A compound miter saw according to Claim 22, further comprising a fixed clamping means fixedly interconnected to said base for selectively and clampingly securing said movable fence [portion]to the base, and a movable clamping means fixedly interconnected with said movable fence [portion]for selectively and clampingly securing said movable fence [portion]to the base.